

## **REMARKS**

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-13 and 17-33 and indicated that 14-16 had been withdrawn from consideration. Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner to the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the present divisional application on September 10, 2003. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the previously submitted Preliminary Amendment is attached hereto as Exhibit "A." Original claims 1-21 were filed with the divisional application. Concurrently, a Preliminary Amendment (Exhibit "A") was submitted indicating that Applicants had elected to prosecute claims 1-13 and 17-21 in the parent application to which the present divisional application claims priority. Accordingly, of the originally filed claims, only claims 14-16 remain in the present application. In addition, and by the previously filed Preliminary Amendment, Applicants added new claims 22-33. Accordingly, claims 14-16 and 22-33 are currently pending.

### **Double Patenting**

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11-13 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 2, 3, 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 5, 8 and 9, respectively of Gans et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,621,755). As noted above, the claims which are rejected for obviousness-type double patenting were canceled by the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the present divisional application. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the double patenting rejection was made in error. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,621,755.

### **Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

The Examiner rejected claims 1-13 and 17-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Nakao (U.S. Patent No. 6,741,511). As discussed above, of these claims, only claims 22-33 are pending in the present application. While Applicants do not agree with the Examiner's statements made with regard to the Nakao reference, Applicants respectfully submit that in view of the priority filing date of the present application, the Nakao reference is not available as prior art against the present divisional application, and therefore, the Examiner's rejections are moot.

As discussed above, the present divisional application was filed on September 10, 2003. A Preliminary Amendment was filed concurrently therewith (Exhibit "A"). As discussed above, the Preliminary Amendment canceled certain claims elected in the parent application and added new claims 22-33. While it appears that the Examiner noted that claims 22-33 were added by the Preliminary Amendment, the Examiner failed to recognize the cancellation of certain of the claims. Further, it appears that the Examiner failed to recognize that the present application was filed as a divisional application claiming priority to prior application Serial No. 09/943,367 (6,621,755 which issued on September 16, 2003). For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the Request for Filing Divisional Application under 37 C.F.R § 1.53(b) as originally filed is provided herewith as Exhibit "B." Further, as previously discussed, a copy of the previously submitted Preliminary Amendment is also attached hereto as Exhibit "A." As indicated in the Request and the Preliminary Amendment, the present divisional application claims priority to U.S. Patent No. 6,621,755 which was filed on August 30, 2001. Because the Nakao reference was not filed until September 20, 2002 and does not have a priority date preceding the earliest filing date of the present divisional application (i.e., August 30, 2001), the Nakao reference is not available as prior

art against the present claims. Without the Nakao reference, Applicants respectfully submit that all currently pending claims are allowable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections and allowance of claims 14-16 and 22-33.

### **Conclusion**

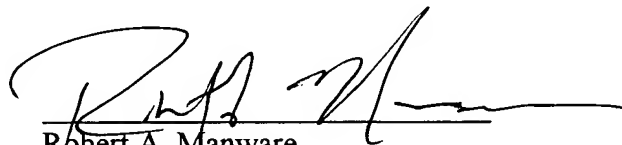
In view of the remarks set forth above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's rejections and allowance of claims 14-16 and 22-33. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

### **General Authorization for Extensions of Time**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, Applicants hereby provide a general authorization to treat this and any future reply requiring an extension of time as incorporating a request therefor. Furthermore, Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge the appropriate fee for any extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-3092; Order No. MICS:0056-1/FLE.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 7, 2005



Robert A. Manware  
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Houston, TX 77269-2289  
(281) 970-4545

# EXHIBIT “A”

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Dean D. Gans et al.

Prior Application Serial No.: 09/943,367  
Prior Application Filed: August 30, 2001

Serial No.: Unknown

Filed: Herewith

For: A TEST MODE TO INCREASE  
ACCELERATION IN BURN-IN

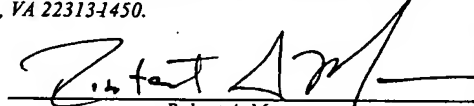
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Group Art Unit: 2818

Examiner: Nguyen, Viet Q.

Atty Docket: MICS:0056—1/FLE  
(00-0301.01)

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner For Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<b>"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL</b>	
NUMBER:	EL 982235897 US
DATE OF DEPOSIT:	September 10, 2003
<i>Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, I hereby certify that I am personally depositing this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service, "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above in a sealed envelope (a) having the above-numbered Express Mail label and sufficient postage affixed, and (b) addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</i>	
September 10, 2003 Date	 Robert A. Manware

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examining the above-referenced divisional application, please amend the application as set forth below. In response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement mailed on October 23, 2002, in the above-referenced prior application, Applicants chose to elect claims 1-13 and 17-21. The present divisional application is filed to continue prosecution of certain of the non-elected subject matter under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Therefore, Applicants respectfully request consideration of the present claims in view of the remarks set forth below.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please add the following sentence directly below the title in the specification:

--This application is a Divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/943,367 filed August 30, 2001.--

### IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-13 and 17-21.

Please add new claims 22-33 as set forth below:

22. (New) A method of burning-in a static random access memory (SRAM) comprising:
- selecting a plurality of memory array blocks in the SRAM; and
  - simultaneously writing to each of the plurality of memory array blocks during burn-in testing.
23. (New) The method, as set forth in claim 22, wherein selecting comprises providing a block selection signal and a testmode signal to a logical device.
24. (New) The method, as set forth in claim 22, wherein selecting comprises providing a clock selection signal and a testmode signal to a NAND gate.
25. (New) The method, as set forth in claim 22, wherein simultaneously writing comprises transmitting data to a plurality of local write drivers.
26. (New) The method, as set forth in claim 25, comprising driving the data from each of the plurality of local write drivers to a respective one of the plurality of memory array blocks.

27. (New) A method of burning-in a static random access memory (SRAM) comprising:  
combining a plurality of signals produced externally with respect to the SRAM;  
producing an internal signal configured to simultaneously select a plurality of  
memory array blocks in the SRAM; and  
simultaneously writing to each of the plurality of memory array blocks.

28. (New) The method, as set forth in claim 27, wherein combining comprises  
combining the plurality of signals through a logical device located internally with respect to the  
SRAM.

29. (New) The method, as set forth in claim 28, wherein producing comprises  
producing an internal signal from an output of the logical device.

30. (New) The method, as set forth in claim 27, wherein combining comprises  
combining the plurality of signals through a logical device located internally with respect to the  
NAND gate.

31. (New) The method, as set forth in claim 27, wherein simultaneously writing  
comprises simultaneously writing to each of the plurality of memory array blocks during burn-in.



32. (New) The method, as set forth in claim 27, wherein simultaneously writing comprises transmitting data to a plurality of local write drivers.

33. (New) The method, as set forth in claim 32, comprising driving the data from each of the plurality of local write drivers to a respective one of the plurality of memory array blocks.

### **Conclusion**

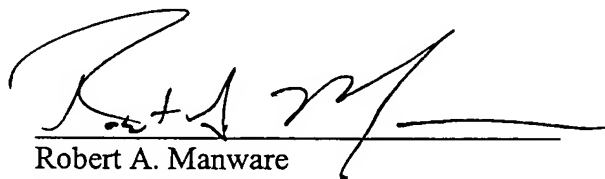
In view of the remarks set forth above, Applicants respectfully request consideration of present claims 14-16 and 22-33. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

### **General Authorization for Payment of Fees and Extensions of Time**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, Applicants hereby provide a general authorization to treat this and any future reply requiring an extension of time as incorporating a request therefor. Furthermore, Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge the appropriate fee for the additional claims and for any extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-3092; Order No. MICS:0056--1/FLE (00-0301.01).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 10, 2003



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# EXHIBIT “B”



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Dean D. Gans et al.

Prior Application Serial No.: 09/943,367  
Prior Application Filed: August 30, 2001

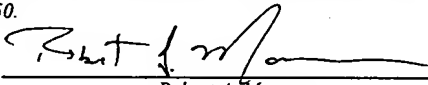
Serial No.: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

For: A TEST MODE TO INCREASE  
ACCELERATION IN BURN-IN

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§ Group Art Unit: 2818  
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§ Examiner: Nguyen, Viet Q.  
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§ Atty Docket: MICS:0056—1/FLE  
§ 00-0301.01

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL	
NUMBER:	EL 982235897 US
DATE OF DEPOSIT:	September 10, 2003
<i>Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, I hereby certify that I am personally depositing this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service, "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above in a sealed envelope (a) having the above-numbered Express Mail label and sufficient postage affixed, and (b) addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</i>	
September 10, 2003	
Date	Robert A. Manware

Dear Sir:

REQUEST FOR FILING DIVISIONAL APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)

This is a Request for filing a divisional application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 09/943,367, filed on August 30, 2001, entitled A TEST MODE TO INCREASE ACCELERATION IN BURN-IN in the name of Dean D. Gans et al.

The following are enclosed:

1.   X   Papers which the undersigned declares to be a true copy of the prior application as originally filed, including a Title page, a 11 page disclosure, 8 pages of claims, a 1 page abstract of the disclosure, 3 sheets of Formal Drawings, and a Declaration signed by the inventors.
2.   X   The Commissioner is authorized to charge the filing fee as calculated below, less any claims canceled by amendment below, and any additional fees which may be required, to Deposit Account No. 13-3092; Order No. MICS:0056—1/FLE (00-0301.01).
- 3.a.        A copy of the Election and Power of Attorney in the prior application.  
or
- 3.b.        A new Power of Attorney.
4.   X   An Assignment of record for the prior application.
5.   X   Three (3) sets of Formal Drawings, each set consisting of 3 sheets.



6.a. \_\_\_\_\_ A verified statement claiming small entity status is enclosed.

or

6.b. \_\_\_\_\_ A verified statement claiming small entity status was filed in a parent application and small entity status is still proper and desired in this continuing application.

7.   X   A Preliminary Amendment.

8.   X   An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-1449.

  X   Please address all correspondence in connection with this application to Michael G. Fletcher, Fletcher Yoder, P.O. Box 692289, Houston, Texas 77269-2289; telephone (281) 970-4545.

  X   Please add the following sentence directly below the title in the specification:

—This application is a Divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/943,367 filed August 30, 2001.—

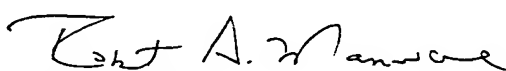
  X   Cancel in this application original claims 1-13 and 17-21 of the prior application before calculating the filing fee. (At least one original independent claim must be retained for filing purposes.)

The filing fee is calculated on the basis of the claims originally filed in the prior application, and any claims canceled or added by amendment.

CLAIMS	FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	CALCULATIONS
	TOTAL CLAIMS 15	- 20 =	0	X \$ 18.00	\$ 0
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 3	- 3 =	0	X \$ 84.00	0
	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (If applicable)			+ 280.00	0
				BASIC FEE	750.00
				Total of above Calculations =	750.00
	Reduction by ½ for filing by small entity (Note 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9, 1.27, 1.28.				\$
				TOTAL =	\$ 750.00

The undersigned declares that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: September 10, 2003

  
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